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COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Twenty-first session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SECOND PART (PUBLIC)*
OF THE 557th MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Friday, 4 June 1999, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairperson: Mrs. MBOI

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* No summary records were issued for the 553rd to 556th meetings, or for the first part (closed) of the 557th meeting.

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Any corrections to the records of the public meetings of the Committee at this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

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The discussion covered in the summary record began at 11.30 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS TWENTY-FIRST SESSION (CRC/C/87)

1. The CHAIRPERSON said that in its new composition the Committee was equipped as never before to implement a holistic approach to the Convention. Delegations, observers and non-governmental organizations, too, had made outstanding contributions to the work of the session. Consequently, the Committee had found the twenty-first session one of the most interesting and informative it had ever held. The delegations had been of impressive quality, extremely willing to exchange ideas with the Committee, aware of their responsibilities under the Convention, and dedicated to advancing the cause of children and their rights. National circumstances, priorities and cultures at some times facilitated, at others hindered the full, impartial implementation of the Convention. The Committee therefore trusted that its questions, suggestions and recommendations were providing encouragement and support to States parties in the ongoing process of fostering children's rights everywhere.

2. She invited the Committee to turn to the adoption of the report on its twenty-first session (CRC/C/87). Chapter I of the report was entitled "Organizational and other matters".

3. If she heard no objection, she would take it that the Committee wished to adopt chapter I of the report.

4. Chapter I of the report was adopted.

5. The CHAIRPERSON invited the Committee to turn to consideration of chapter III of the report, entitled "Overview of the other activities of the Committee". Referring to its section D, she reminded members that it had been agreed to postpone the Committee's next thematic debate until the year 2000, and instead to hold a two-day meeting at the twenty-second session, entitled "The Convention on the Rights of the Child: a decade of achievements and challenges". Details of the forthcoming meeting were contained in annex IV to the report.

6. If she heard no objection, she would take it that the Committee wished to adopt chapter III of the report.

7. Chapter III of the report was adopted.

8. The CHAIRPERSON invited the Committee to consider the draft provisional agenda for its next session, which was contained in chapter IV of the report.

9. The draft provisional agenda for the twenty-second session was adopted.

10. The CHAIRPERSON invited the Rapporteur to present chapter II of the report, entitled "Reports by States parties under article 44 of the Convention", which contained the Committee's draft concluding observations on the reports of Barbados, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Honduras, Benin, Chad and Nicaragua.

11. Mr. DOEK (Rapporteur) highlighted the salient points of the Committee's concluding observations on the reports submitted by States parties.

Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Barbados (CRC/C/15/Add.103)

12. The concluding observations concerning the initial report of Barbados (CRC/C/3/Add.45) were adopted.

Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Saint Kitts and Nevis (CRC/C/15/Add.104)

13. The concluding observations concerning the initial report of Saint Kitts and Nevis (CRC/C/3/Add.51) were adopted.

Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Honduras (CRC/C/15/Add.105)

14. The concluding observations concerning the second periodic report of Honduras (CRC/C/65/Add.2) were adopted.

Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Benin (CRC/C/15/Add.106)

15. The concluding observations concerning the initial report of Benin (CRC/C/33/Add.52) were adopted.

Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Chad (CRC/C/15/Add.107)

16. The concluding observations concerning the initial report of Chad (CRC/C/3/Add.50) were adopted.

Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Nicaragua (CRC/C/15/Add.108)

17. The concluding observations concerning the second periodic report of Nicaragua (CRC/C/65/Add.4) were adopted.

18. Chapter II of the report was adopted as a whole.

19. The CHAIRPERSON said that in the absence of any objections, she would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft report on its twenty-first session (CRC/C/87) in its entirety.

20. The draft report of the Committee on its twenty-first session was adopted.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

21. After an exchange of courtesies, the CHAIRPERSON declared the twenty-first session of the Committee closed.

The meeting rose at 12.45 p.m.